| 1 | SCHOOL DISTRICT DIVISION AMENDMENT |
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| 2 | 2010 GENERAL SESSION |
| 3 | STATE OF UTAH |
| 4 5 | LONG TITLE |
| 6 | General Description: |
| 7 | This bill modifies procedures for establishing a new school district following voter |
| 8 | approval of the proposal. |
| 9 | Highlighted Provisions: |
| 10 | This bill: |
| 11 | requires the election, at the next general election following voter approval of the |
| 12 | proposal to create a new school district, of: |
| 13 | the school board members for the existing school district whose terms are |
| 14 | expiring; |
| 15 | all members to the school board of the new school district; and |
| 16 | all members to the school board of the remaining school district; |
| 17 | modifies the effective date for the new school district; |
| 18 | modifies certain provisions relating to the allocation of school district property; and |
| 19 | makes technical corrections. |
| 20 | Monies Appropriated in this Bill: |
| 21 | None |
| 22 | Other Special Clauses: |
| 23 | None |
| 24 | Utah Code Sections Affected: |
| 25 | AMENDS: |
| 26 | 53A-2-118, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2009, Chapter 350 |
| 27 | 53A-2-118.1 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2009, Chapter 350 |
| 28 | 53A-2-119 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2007, Chapter 215 |
| 29 | |
| 30 | Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah: |
| 31 | Section 1. Section 53A-2-118 is amended to read: |
| 32 | 53A-2-118. Creation of new school district Initiation of process Procedures |

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34 (1) A new school district may be created from one or more existing school districts, as 35 provided in this section.

- (2) (a) The process to create a new school district may be initiated:
- 37 (i) through a citizens' initiative petition;
- 38 (ii) at the request of the board of the existing district or districts to be affected by the creation of the new district; or
 - (iii) at the request of a city within the boundaries of the school district or at the request of interlocal agreement participants, pursuant to Section 53A-2-118.1.
 - (b) (i) Each petition submitted under Subsection (2)(a)(i) shall be signed by qualified electors residing within the geographical boundaries of the proposed new school district equal in number to at least 15% of the number of electors in the area who voted for the office of governor at the last regular general election.
 - (ii) Each request or petition submitted under Subsection (2)(a) shall:
 - (A) be filed with the clerk of each county in which any part of the proposed new school district is located;
 - (B) indicate the typed or printed name and current residence address of each governing board member making a request, or registered voter signing a petition, as the case may be;
 - (C) describe the proposed new school district boundaries; and
 - (D) designate up to five signers of the petition or request as sponsors, one of whom shall be designated as the contact sponsor, with the mailing address and telephone number of each.
 - (c) A signer of a petition under Subsection (2)(a)(i) may withdraw or, once withdrawn, reinstate the signer's signature at any time before the filing of the petition by filing a written withdrawal or reinstatement with the county clerk.
 - (d) The process under Subsection (2)(a)(i) may only be initiated once during any four-year period.
 - (e) A new district may not be formed pursuant to Subsection (2)(a) if the student population of the proposed new district is less than 3,000 or the existing district's student population would be less than 3,000 because of the creation of the new school district.
 - (f) Within 45 days after the filing of a petition under Subsection (2)(a)(i) or five

business days after the filing of a request under Subsection (2)(a)(ii) or (iii), the clerk of each county with which a request or petition is filed shall:

- (i) determine whether the request or petition complies with Subsections (2)(a), (b), (d), and (e), as applicable; and
- (ii) (A) if the county clerk determines that the request or petition complies with the applicable requirements:
- (I) certify the request or petition and deliver the certified request or petition to the county legislative body; and
 - (II) mail or deliver written notification of the certification to the contact sponsor; or
- (B) if the county clerk determines that the request or petition fails to comply with any of the applicable requirements, reject the request or petition and notify the contact sponsor in writing of the rejection and reasons for the rejection.
- (g) If the county clerk fails to certify or reject a request or petition within the time specified in Subsection (2)(f), the request or petition shall be considered to be certified.
- (h) (i) If the county clerk rejects a request or petition, the request or petition may be amended to correct the deficiencies for which it was rejected and then refiled.
- (ii) Subsection (2)(d) does not apply to a request or petition that is amended and refiled after having been rejected by a county clerk.
- (i) If a county legislative body receives a request from a school board under Subsection (2)(a)(ii) or a petition under Subsection (2)(a)(i) which is certified by the county clerk on or before December 1:
- (i) the county legislative body shall appoint an ad hoc advisory committee, as provided by Subsection (3), on or before January 1;
- (ii) the ad hoc advisory committee shall submit its report and recommendations to the county legislative body, as provided by Subsection (3), on or before July 1; and
- (iii) if the legislative body of each county with which a request or petition is filed approves a proposal to create a new district, the proposal shall be submitted to the respective county clerk to be voted on by the electors of each existing district at the regular general or municipal general election held in November.
- (3) (a) The legislative body of each county with which a request or petition is filed shall appoint an ad hoc advisory committee to review and make recommendations on a request

| 95 | for the creation of a new school district submitted under Subsection (2)(a)(i) or (ii). |
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| 96 | (b) The advisory committee shall: |
| 97 | (i) seek input from: |
| 98 | (A) those requesting the creation of the new school district; |
| 99 | (B) the school board and school personnel of each existing school district; |
| 100 | (C) those citizens residing within the geographical boundaries of each existing school |
| 101 | district; |
| 102 | (D) the State Board of Education; and |
| 103 | (E) other interested parties; |
| 104 | (ii) review data and gather information on at least: |
| 105 | (A) the financial viability of the proposed new school district; |
| 106 | (B) the proposal's financial impact on each existing school district; |
| 107 | (C) the exact placement of school district boundaries; and |
| 108 | (D) the positive and negative effects of creating a new school district and whether the |
| 109 | positive effects outweigh the negative if a new school district were to be created; and |
| 110 | (iii) make a report to the county legislative body in a public meeting on the committee's |
| 111 | activities, together with a recommendation on whether to create a new school district. |
| 112 | (4) For a request or petition submitted under Subsection (2)(a)(i) or (2)(a)(ii): |
| 113 | (a) The county legislative body shall provide for a 45-day public comment period on |
| 114 | the report and recommendation to begin on the day the report is given under Subsection |
| 115 | (3)(b)(iii). |
| 116 | (b) Within 14 days after the end of the comment period, the legislative body of each |
| 117 | county with which a request or petition is filed shall vote on the creation of the proposed new |
| 118 | school district. |
| 119 | (c) The proposal is approved if a majority of the members of the legislative body of |
| 120 | each county with which a request or petition is filed votes in favor of the proposal. |
| 121 | (d) If the proposal is approved, the legislative body of each county with which a |
| 122 | request or petition is filed shall submit the proposal to the county clerk to be voted on: |
| 123 | (i) by the legal voters of each existing school district; |
| 124 | (ii) in accordance with the procedures and requirements applicable to a regular general |
| 125 | election under Title 20A, Election Code; and |

| 126 | (iii) at the next regular general election or municipal general election, whichever is |
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| 127 | first. |
| 128 | (e) Creation of the new school district shall occur if a majority of the electors within |
| 129 | both the proposed school district and each remaining school district voting on the proposal vote |
| 130 | in favor of the creation of the new district. |
| 131 | (f) Each county legislative body shall comply with the requirements of Section |
| 132 | 53A-2-101.5. |
| 133 | (g) If a proposal submitted under Subsection (2)(a)(i) or (ii) to create a new district is |
| 134 | approved by the electors, the existing district's documented costs to study and implement the |
| 135 | proposal shall be reimbursed by the new district. |
| 136 | (5) (a) If a proposal submitted under Subsection (2)(a)(iii) is certified under Subsection |
| 137 | (2)(f) or (g), the legislative body of each county in which part of the proposed new school |
| 138 | district is located shall submit the proposal to the respective clerk of each county to be voted |
| 139 | on: |
| 140 | (i) by the legal voters residing within the proposed new school district boundaries; |
| 141 | (ii) in accordance with the procedures and requirements applicable to a regular general |
| 142 | election under Title 20A, Election Code; and |
| 143 | (iii) at the next regular general election or municipal general election, whichever is |
| 144 | first. |
| 145 | (b) (i) If a majority of the legal voters within the proposed new school district |
| 146 | boundaries voting on the proposal at an election under Subsection (5)(a) vote in favor of the |
| 147 | creation of the new district: |
| 148 | (A) each county legislative body shall comply with the requirements of Section |
| 149 | 53A-2-101.5; and |
| 150 | (B) upon the lieutenant governor's issuance of the certificate under Section 67-1a-6.5, |
| 151 | the new district is created. |
| 152 | (ii) Notwithstanding the creation of a new district as provided in Subsection |
| 153 | (5)(b)(i)(B): |
| 154 | (A) a new school district may not begin to provide educational services to the area |
| 155 | within the new district until July 1 of the second calendar year following the [creation] school |
| 156 | board general election date described in Subsection 53A-2-118.1(3)(a)(i); |

| 157 | (B) a remaining district may not begin to provide educational services to the area |
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| 158 | within the remaining district until the time specified in Subsection (5)(b)(ii)(A); and |
| 159 | (C) each existing district shall continue, until the time specified in Subsection |
| 160 | (5)(b)(ii)(A), to provide educational services within the entire area covered by the existing |
| 161 | district. |
| 162 | Section 2. Section 53A-2-118.1 is amended to read: |
| 163 | 53A-2-118.1. Option for school district creation. |
| 164 | (1) (a) After conducting a feasibility study, a city with a population of at least 50,000, |
| 165 | as determined by the lieutenant governor using the process described in Subsection 67-1a-2(3), |
| 166 | may by majority vote of the legislative body, submit for voter approval a measure to create a |
| 167 | new school district with boundaries contiguous with that city's boundaries, in accordance with |
| 168 | Section 53A-2-118. |
| 169 | (b) (i) The determination of all matters relating to the scope, adequacy, and other |
| 170 | aspects of a feasibility study under Subsection (1)(a) is within the exclusive discretion of the |
| 171 | city's legislative body. |
| 172 | (ii) An inadequacy of a feasibility study under Subsection (1)(a) may not be the basis of |
| 173 | a legal action or other challenge to: |
| 174 | (A) an election for voter approval of the creation of a new school district; or |
| 175 | (B) the creation of the new school district. |
| 176 | (2) (a) By majority vote of the legislative body, a city of any class, a town, or a county, |
| 177 | may, together with one or more other cities, towns, or the county enter into an interlocal |
| 178 | agreement, in accordance with Title 11, Chapter 13, Interlocal Cooperation Act, for the purpose |
| 179 | of submitting for voter approval a measure to create a new school district. |
| 180 | (b) (i) In accordance with Section 53A-2-118, interlocal agreement participants under |
| 181 | Subsection (2)(a) may submit a proposal for voter approval if: |
| 182 | (A) the interlocal agreement participants conduct a feasibility study prior to submitting |
| 183 | the proposal to the county; |
| 184 | (B) the combined population within the proposed new school district boundaries is at |
| 185 | least 50,000; |
| 186 | (C) the new school district boundaries: |
| 187 | (I) are contiguous; |

188 (II) do not completely surround or otherwise completely geographically isolate a 189 portion of an existing school district that is not part of the proposed new school district from 190 the remaining part of that existing school district, except as provided in Subsection (2)(d)(iii); 191 (III) include the entire boundaries of each participant city or town, except as provided 192 in Subsection (2)(d)(ii); and (IV) subject to Subsection (2)(b)(ii), do not cross county lines; and 193 194 (D) the combined population within the proposed new school district of interlocal agreement participants that have entered into an interlocal agreement proposing to create a new 195 196 school district is at least 80% of the total population of the proposed new school district. 197 (ii) The determination of all matters relating to the scope, adequacy, and other aspects 198 of a feasibility study under Subsection (2)(b)(i)(A), including whether to conduct a new 199 feasibility study or revise a previous feasibility study due to a change in the proposed new 200 school district boundaries, is within the exclusive discretion of the legislative bodies of the 201 interlocal agreement participants that enter into an interlocal agreement to submit for voter 202 approval a measure to create a new school district. 203 (iii) An inadequacy of a feasibility study under Subsection (2)(b)(i)(A) may not be the 204 basis of a legal action or other challenge to: 205 (A) an election for voter approval of the creation of a new school district; or 206 (B) the creation of the new school district. 207 (iv) For purposes of determining whether the boundaries of a proposed new school 208 district cross county lines under Subsection (2)(b)(i)(C)(IV): 209 (A) a municipality located in more than one county and entirely within the boundaries 210 of a single school district is considered to be entirely within the same county as other 211 participants in an interlocal agreement under Subsection (2)(a) if more of the municipality's 212 land area and population is located in that same county than outside the county; and 213 (B) a municipality located in more than one county that participates in an interlocal 214 agreement under Subsection (2)(a) with respect to some but not all of the area within the 215 municipality's boundaries on the basis of the exception stated in Subsection (2)(d)(ii)(B) may 216 not be considered to cross county lines.

(2) for the unincorporated areas of the county.

(c) (i) A county may only participate in an interlocal agreement under this Subsection

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| 219 | (ii) Boundaries of a new school district created under this section may include: |
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| 220 | (A) a portion of one or more existing school districts; and |
| 221 | (B) a portion of the unincorporated area of a county, including a portion of a township. |
| 222 | (d) (i) As used in this Subsection (2)(d): |
| 223 | (A) "Isolated area" means an area that: |
| 224 | (I) is entirely within the boundaries of a municipality that, except for that area, is |
| 225 | entirely within a school district different than the school district in which the area is located; |
| 226 | and |
| 227 | (II) would, because of the creation of a new school district from the existing district in |
| 228 | which the area is located, become completely geographically isolated. |
| 229 | (B) "Municipality's school district" means the school district that includes all of the |
| 230 | municipality in which the isolated area is located except the isolated area. |
| 231 | (ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(b)(i)(C)(III), a municipality may be a participant in |
| 232 | an interlocal agreement under Subsection (2)(a) with respect to some but not all of the area |
| 233 | within the municipality's boundaries if: |
| 234 | (A) the portion of the municipality proposed to be included in the new school district |
| 235 | would, if not included, become an isolated area upon the creation of the new school district; or |
| 236 | (B) (I) the portion of the municipality proposed to be included in the new school |
| 237 | district is within the boundaries of the same school district that includes the other interlocal |
| 238 | agreement participants; and |
| 239 | (II) the portion of the municipality proposed to be excluded from the new school |
| 240 | district is within the boundaries of a school district other than the school district that includes |
| 241 | the other interlocal agreement participants. |
| 242 | (iii) (A) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(b)(i)(C)(II), a proposal to create a new school |
| 243 | district may be submitted for voter approval pursuant to an interlocal agreement under |
| 244 | Subsection (2)(a), even though the new school district boundaries would create an isolated |
| 245 | area, if: |
| 246 | (I) the potential isolated area is contiguous to one or more of the interlocal agreement |
| 247 | participants; |
| 248 | (II) the interlocal participants submit a written request to the municipality in which the |
| 249 | potential isolated area is located, requesting the municipality to enter into an interlocal |

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agreement under Subsection (2)(a) that proposes to submit for voter approval a measure to 251 create a new school district that includes the potential isolated area; and 252 (III) 90 days after a request under Subsection (2)(d)(iii)(A)(II) is submitted, the 253 municipality has not entered into an interlocal agreement as requested in the request. 254 (B) Each municipality receiving a request under Subsection (2)(d)(iii)(A)(II) shall hold 255 one or more public hearings to allow input from the public and affected school districts 256 regarding whether or not the municipality should enter into an interlocal agreement with 257 respect to the potential isolated area. 258 (C) (I) This Subsection (2)(d)(iii)(C) applies if: 259 (Aa) a new school district is created under this section after a measure is submitted to 260 voters based on the authority of Subsection (2)(d)(iii)(A); and 261 (Bb) the creation of the new school district results in an isolated area. 262 (II) The isolated area shall, on July 1 of the second calendar year following the 263 [creation] school board general election date described in Subsection (3)(a)(i), become part of 264 the municipality's school district. 265 (III) Unless the isolated area is the only remaining part of the existing district, the 266 process described in Subsection (4) shall be modified to: 267 (Aa) include a third transition team, appointed by the school district board of the 268 municipality's school district, to represent that school district; 269 (Bb) require allocation of the existing district's property among the new district, the 270 remaining district, and the municipality's school district; 271 (Cc) require each of the three transition teams to appoint one member to the 272 three-member arbitration panel, if an arbitration panel is established; and 273 (Dd) require the municipality's school district to bear 1/3 of the costs of arbitration. 274 (IV) The existing district shall continue to provide educational services to the isolated 275 area until July 1 of the second calendar year following the [creation] school board general 276 election date described in Subsection (3)(a)(i). 277 (3) (a) If a proposal under this section is approved by voters: 278 [(i) (A) subject to Subsection (3)(e):] 279 [(I) each member of the board of the existing district who resides within the boundary 280 of the new school district shall serve as an initial member of the new district board; and

| 281 | [(II) each member of the board of the existing district who resides within the boundary |
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| 282 | of the remaining school district shall serve as an initial member of the remaining district board; |
| 283 | and] |
| 284 | [(B)] (i) an election shall be held [on the June special election date, as provided in |
| 285 | Section 20A-1-204, in the year following the creation election date,] at the next regular general |
| 286 | election to elect: |
| 287 | (A) members to the board of the existing school district whose terms are expiring; |
| 288 | [(I) all other] (B) all members to the board of the new school district; and |
| 289 | [(H) all other] (C) all members to the board of the remaining district; |
| 290 | (ii) school district property shall be divided between the existing school district and the |
| 291 | new school district as provided in Subsection (4); |
| 292 | (iii) transferred employees shall be treated in accordance with Sections 53A-2-116 and |
| 293 | 53A-2-122; |
| 294 | (iv) (A) an individual residing within the boundaries of a new school district at the |
| 295 | time the new school district is created may, for six school years after the creation of the new |
| 296 | school district, elect to enroll in a secondary school located outside the boundaries of the new |
| 297 | school district if: |
| 298 | (I) the individual resides within the boundaries of that secondary school as of the day |
| 299 | before the new school district is created; and |
| 300 | (II) the individual would have been eligible to enroll in that secondary school had the |
| 301 | new school district not been created; and |
| 302 | (B) the school district in which the secondary school is located shall provide |
| 303 | educational services, including, if provided before the creation of the new school district, |
| 304 | busing, to each individual making an election under Subsection (3)(a)(iv)(A) for each school |
| 305 | year for which the individual makes the election; and |
| 306 | (v) within one year after the new district begins providing educational services, the |
| 307 | superintendent of each remaining district affected and the superintendent of the new district |
| 308 | shall meet, together with the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to determine if further |
| 309 | boundary changes should be proposed in accordance with Section 53A-2-104. |
| 310 | [(b) Each member of a school district board of a new district and remaining district |
| 311 | under Subsection (3)(a)(i) shall take office on July 15 immediately following the election under |

| 312 | Subsection (3)(a)(i)(B). |
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| 313 | [(c)] (b) (i) [Subject to Subsection (3)(c)(ii), the] The terms of the initial members of |
| 314 | the school district board of the new district and remaining district shall be staggered and |
| 315 | adjusted by the county legislative body so that[:] approximately half of the board is elected |
| 316 | every two years. |
| 317 | [(A) the school district board members' successors are elected at a future regular |
| 318 | general election; and] |
| 319 | [(B) the terms of their successors coincide with the schedule of terms for school district |
| 320 | board members established in Section 20A-14-202.] |
| 321 | (ii) [(A)] The term of a member of the existing school board, including a member |
| 322 | elected under Subsection (3)(a)(i)(A), [may not be less than 17 months. (B) In order to comply |
| 323 | with the requirements of Subsection (3)(c)(i), the term of a member elected to a school district |
| 324 | board at an election under Subsection (3)(a)(i)(B) held in an even-numbered year may exceed |
| 325 | four years but may not exceed five years. (d) (i) The term of each member of the school district |
| 326 | board of the existing district] terminates on July 1 of the second year after the [creation] school |
| 327 | board general election date described in Subsection (3)(a)(i), regardless of when the term |
| 328 | would otherwise have terminated. |
| 329 | [(iii)] (iii) Notwithstanding the existence of a board for the new district and a board for |
| 330 | the remaining district under Subsection (3)(a)(i), the board of the existing district shall |
| 331 | continue, until the time specified in Subsection 53A-2-118(5)(b)(ii)(A), to function and |
| 332 | exercise authority as a board to the extent necessary to continue to provide educational services |
| 333 | to the entire existing district. |
| 334 | [(iii)] (iv) A person may simultaneously serve as or be elected to be a member of the |
| 335 | board of an existing district and a member of the board of: |
| 336 | (A) a new district; or |
| 337 | (B) a remaining district. |
| 338 | [(e) If two or more members of an existing school district board reside within the same |
| 339 | local school board district, as established by the county legislative body under Section |
| 340 | 20A-14-201, of the new district or remaining district: |
| 341 | [(i) those board members shall stand for election at the same election at which the other |
| 342 | board members are elected under Subsection (3)(a)(i)(B); and] |

| 343 | [(ii) the board member receiving the highest number of votes is elected to the board of |
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| 344 | the new district or remaining district, as the case may be, for the local school board district in |
| 345 | which the board member resides.] |
| 346 | (4) (a) Within 45 days after the canvass date for the election at which voters approve |
| 347 | the creation of a new district: |
| 348 | (i) a transition team to represent the remaining district shall be appointed by the |
| 349 | members of the existing district board who reside within the area of the remaining district, in |
| 350 | consultation with: |
| 351 | (A) the legislative bodies of all municipalities in the area of the remaining district; and |
| 352 | (B) the legislative body of the county in which the remaining district is located, if the |
| 353 | remaining district includes one or more unincorporated areas of the county; and |
| 354 | (ii) another transition team to represent the new district shall be appointed by: |
| 355 | (A) for a new district located entirely within the boundaries of a single city, the |
| 356 | legislative body of that city; or |
| 357 | (B) for each other new district, the legislative bodies of all interlocal agreement |
| 358 | participants. |
| 359 | (b) The school district board of the existing school district shall, within 60 days after |
| 360 | the canvass date for the election at which voters approve the creation of a new district: |
| 361 | (i) prepare an inventory of the existing district's: |
| 362 | (A) property, both tangible and intangible, real and personal; and |
| 363 | (B) liabilities; and |
| 364 | (ii) deliver a copy of the inventory to each of the transition teams. |
| 365 | (c) (i) (A) The transition teams appointed under Subsection (4)(a) shall, subject to |
| 366 | Subsection (4)(c)(iii): |
| 367 | (I) determine the allocation of the existing district's property and, except for |
| 368 | indebtedness under Section 53A-2-121, liabilities between the remaining district and the new |
| 369 | district in accordance with Subsection (4)(c)(ii); |
| 370 | (II) prepare a written report detailing how the existing district's property and, except for |
| 371 | indebtedness under Section 53A-2-121, liabilities are to be allocated, including: |
| 372 | (Aa) a designation of the property that should be transferred to the new district; |
| 373 | (Bb) a designation of any property that should be shared between the remaining district |

| 374 | and the new district; and |
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| 375 | (Cc) a designation of any property that will need to be allocated by arbitration under |
| 376 | Subsection (4)(d); and |
| 377 | (III) deliver a copy of the written report to: |
| 378 | (Aa) the school district board of the existing district; |
| 379 | (Bb) the school district board of the remaining district; and |
| 380 | (Cc) the school district board of the new district. |
| 381 | (B) The transition teams shall determine the allocation under Subsection (4)(c)(i)(A)(I) |
| 382 | and deliver the report required under Subsection (4)(c)(i)(A)(II) before August 1 of the year |
| 383 | following the election at which voters approve the creation of a new district, unless that |
| 384 | deadline is extended by the mutual agreement of: |
| 385 | [(I) if the agreement is made before July 15 of the year following the creation election |
| 386 | date:] |
| 387 | [(Aa)] (I) the school district board of the existing district; and |
| 388 | [(Bb) (Ii)] (II) (Aa) the legislative body of the city in which the new district is located. |
| 389 | for a new district located entirely within a single city; or |
| 390 | [(Hii)] (Bb) the legislative bodies of all interlocal agreement participants, for each other |
| 391 | new district[; or]. |
| 392 | [(II) if the agreement is made on or after July 15 of the year following the creation |
| 393 | election date:] |
| 394 | [(Aa) the school district board of the remaining district; and] |
| 395 | [(Bb) the school district board of the new district.] |
| 396 | (ii) Subject to Subsection (4)(c)(iii), all property, assets, and liabilities that the existing |
| 397 | district owns on the allocation date, both tangible and intangible, real and personal, shall be |
| 398 | allocated between the remaining district and the new district in a way that is fair and equitable |
| 399 | to both the remaining district and the new district, taking into account: |
| 400 | (A) the relative student populations between the remaining district and new district; |
| 401 | (B) the relative assessed value of taxable property between the remaining district and |
| 402 | the new district; |
| 403 | (C) the historical amount of property used to deliver educational services to students in |
| 404 | the remaining district and the new district; |

| 405 | (D) any money made available for the use of the new district under Subsection (5); and |
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| 406 | [(E) the agreed value of school buildings and associated property allocated to the |
| 407 | remaining district and the new district under Subsection (4)(c)(iii)(A); and] |
| 408 | [(F)] (E) any other factors that the transition teams consider relevant in dividing the |
| 109 | property in a fair and equitable manner. |
| 410 | (iii) (A) The transition teams shall allocate each school building and associated |
| 411 | property used primarily to provide educational services to local residents and not serving |
| 412 | district-wide purposes to the school district that would best serve the existing student |
| 413 | population of that school building and associated property. |
| 414 | (B) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(c)(iii)(A), nothing in this Subsection (4)(c) |
| 415 | may be construed to limit the ability of the transition teams to: |
| 416 | (I) provide that an existing district's property be shared by a remaining district and new |
| 417 | district; |
| 418 | (II) determine, by mutual agreement, that the value of the school buildings and |
| 419 | associated property described in Subsection (4)(c)(iii)(A) may be excluded from consideration |
| 420 | in the property allocation process under this Subsection (4)(c); or |
| 421 | (III) provide for any other arrangement with respect to existing district property that is |
| 122 | beneficial to and in the best interests of the remaining district and new district. |
| 123 | (d) (i) Each disagreement between the transition teams about the proper allocation of |
| 124 | property between the districts shall be resolved by binding arbitration to a three-member |
| 125 | arbitration panel. |
| 426 | (ii) Each transition team shall, no later than September 1 of the year after the creation |
| 127 | election date, appoint one qualified, independent arbitrator to an arbitration panel under this |
| 128 | Subsection (4)(d), and those two arbitrators shall, within 15 days after their appointment, |
| 129 | appoint a third qualified, independent arbitrator. |
| 430 | (iii) In the process of resolving a dispute between the transition teams, the arbitration |
| 431 | panel may engage the services of one or more professionals to provide technical advice to the |
| 132 | panel. |
| 133 | (iv) The costs of arbitration shall initially be borne entirely by the existing district, but |
| 134 | the new district shall reimburse the existing district half of those costs within one year after the |
| 135 | new district begins providing educational services. |

| 436 | (e) Each decision of the transition teams and of the arbitration panel resolving a |
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| 437 | disagreement between the transition teams is final and binding on the boards of the existing |
| 438 | district, remaining district, and new district. |
| 439 | (f) (i) All costs and expenses of the transition team that represents a remaining district |
| 440 | shall be borne by the remaining district. |
| 441 | (ii) All costs and expenses of the transition team that represents a new district shall |
| 442 | initially be borne by: |
| 443 | (A) the city whose legislative body appoints the transition team, if the transition team |
| 444 | is appointed by the legislative body of a single city; or |
| 445 | (B) the interlocal agreement participants, if the transition team is appointed by the |
| 446 | legislative bodies of interlocal agreement participants. |
| 447 | (iii) The new district may, to a maximum of \$500,000, reimburse the city or interlocal |
| 448 | agreement participants for: |
| 449 | (A) transition team costs and expenses; and |
| 450 | (B) startup costs and expenses incurred by the city or interlocal agreement participants |
| 451 | on behalf of the new district. |
| 452 | (5) (a) As used in this Subsection (5): |
| 453 | (i) "New district startup costs" means: |
| 454 | (A) costs and expenses incurred by a new district in order to prepare to begin providing |
| 455 | educational services on July 1 of the second calendar year following the [creation] school board |
| 456 | general election date described in Subsection (3)(a)(i); and |
| 457 | (B) the costs and expenses of the transition team that represents the new district. |
| 458 | (ii) "Remaining district startup costs" means: |
| 459 | (A) costs and expenses incurred by a remaining district in order to: |
| 460 | (I) make necessary adjustments to deal with the impacts resulting from the creation of |
| 461 | the new district; and |
| 462 | (II) prepare to provide educational services within the remaining district once the new |
| 463 | district begins providing educational services within the new district; and |
| 464 | (B) the costs and expenses of the transition team that represents the remaining district. |
| 465 | (b) (i) By [July 25] January 1 of the year following the [creation] school board general |
| 466 | election date described in Subsection (3)(a)(i), the existing district shall make half of the |

undistributed reserve from its General Fund, to a maximum of \$9,000,000, available for the use of the remaining district and the new district, as provided in this Subsection (5).

- (ii) The existing district may make additional funds available for the use of the remaining district and the new district beyond the amount specified in Subsection (5)(b)(i) through an interlocal agreement.
- (c) The existing district shall make the money under Subsection (5)(b) available to the remaining district and the new district proportionately based on student population.
 - (d) The money made available under Subsection (5)(b) may be accessed and spent by:
- 475 (i) for the remaining district, the school district board of the remaining district; and
- 476 (ii) for the new district, the school district board of the new district.
- (e) (i) The remaining district may use its portion of the money made available under

 Subsection (5)(b) to pay for remaining district startup costs.
 - (ii) The new district may use its portion of the money made available under Subsection(5)(b) to pay for new district startup costs.
 - (6) (a) The existing district shall transfer title or, if applicable, partial title of property to the new school district in accordance with the allocation of property by:
 - (i) the transition teams, as stated in the report under Subsection (4)(c)(i)(A)(II); and
- 484 (ii) the arbitration panel, if applicable.

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- (b) The existing district shall complete each transfer of title or, if applicable, partial title to real property and vehicles by July 1 of the second calendar year following the [creation] school board general election date described in Subsection (3)(a)(i), except as that date is changed by the mutual agreement of:
 - (i) the school district board of the existing district;
- (ii) the school district board of the remaining district; and
 - (iii) the school district board of the new district.
- (c) The existing district shall complete the transfer of all property not included in Subsection (6)(b) by November 1 of the second calendar year after the [creation] school board general election date described in Subsection (3)(a)(i).
- (7) Except as provided in Subsections (5) and (6), after the creation election date an existing school district may not transfer or agree to transfer title to district property without the prior consent of:

| 198 | (a) if the transfer or agreement to transfer is before July 15 of the year following the |
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| 199 | creation election date:] |
| 500 | [(i)] (a) the legislative body of the city in which the new district is located, for a new |
| 501 | district located entirely within a single city; or |
| 502 | [(ii)] (b) the legislative bodies of all interlocal agreement participants, for each other |
| 503 | new district[; or]. |
| 504 | [(b) if the transfer or agreement to transfer is on or after July 15 of the year following |
| 505 | the creation election date but before July 15 of the second calendar year following the creation |
| 506 | election date:] |
| 507 | [(i) the school district board of the remaining district; and] |
| 808 | [(ii) the school district board of the new district.] |
| 509 | (8) This section applies to and governs all actions and proceedings relating to and |
| 510 | following the creation of a new district, whether the election under Subsection 53A-2-118(5) |
| 511 | on the proposal to create a new school district occurs before or after May 5, 2008, including: |
| 512 | (a) the election of school district board members; and |
| 513 | (b) transition team duties and responsibilities, whether the transition team is appointed |
| 514 | before or after May 5, 2008. |
| 515 | Section 3. Section 53A-2-119 is amended to read: |
| 516 | 53A-2-119. Reapportionment Local school board membership. |
| 517 | (1) Upon the creation of a new school district, the county legislative body shall |
| 518 | reapportion the affected school districts pursuant to Section 20A-14-201. |
| 519 | (2) Except as provided in [Subsections (3) and] Section 53A-2-118.1[(3)(c)], school |
| 520 | board membership in the affected school districts shall be determined under Title 20A, Chapte |
| 521 | 14, Part 2, Nomination and Election of Members of Local Boards of Education. |
| 522 | [(3) (a) Subsection (3)(b) does not apply to a new school district created under Section |
| 523 | 53A-2-118.1.] |
| 524 | [(b) (i) If, as a result of a reapportionment conducted following the creation of a new |
| 525 | school district, a local school board district is created in which no board member whose term |
| 526 | extends beyond reapportionment resides, the first board member for the local school board |
| 527 | district shall be elected at the next regular general election or municipal general election, |
| 528 | whichever occurs first, after the election at which the creation of the new school district is |

| 529 | approved.] |
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| 530 | [(ii) (A) The initial term of office of a board member elected under Subsection (3)(b)(i) |
| 531 | shall be three years, except as provided in Subsection (3)(b)(ii)(B). |
| 532 | [(B) If more than one position on a local school board needs to be filled pursuant to |
| 533 | Subsection (3)(b)(i), the initial term of the board members elected shall be staggered. The |
| 534 | county legislative body shall determine by lot which of the reapportioned local school board |
| 535 | districts will elect members to three-year terms and which will elect members to one-year |
| 536 | terms.] |

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